

**City of Wichita  
District Advisory Board Meeting, District VI  
July 12, 2021**

**TO:** Dr. Cindy Claycomb, Council Member District VI  
District Advisory Board Members

**SUBJECT:** Single-Use Plastic Bag Impacts in the Wichita Area

**INITIATED BY:** City Appointed Plastic Bag Task Force

**AGENDA:** New Business

---

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Background:** The Plastic Bag Task Force was established on January 28, 2020 to assess and better understand the impact of single-use plastic bags in the Wichita area as well as explore possible mitigation strategies that best fit the Wichita community.

**Analysis:** Plastic Bag Task Force members have met monthly to discuss, research, explore, and plan how to best quantify single-use plastic bag impacts, attitudes surrounding single-use plastic bags, and possible reduction methods. Some of the group's efforts include –

- Developing outreach and education materials;
- Working with University of Kansas School of Medicine – Wichita thesis student on a community survey to assess single-use plastic bag perception and possible reduction methods;
- Working with the Wichita State University Environmental Finance Center to initiate a litter study in the Wichita area with the intent to determine the role of single-use plastic bags in the litter landscape;
- Conducting broader research regarding impacts of plastics on health and environment as well as legislation mitigating plastic bag usage in other communities; and
- Creating outreach and education materials to share information learned with community leaders and residents.

A considerable amount of work has been accomplished since the Task Force was appointed last January, but members acknowledge much work is still required before a formal recommendation can be made to City Council members including -

- Assessment of multiple mitigation strategies
  - Pros/Cons evaluation
  - Economic impact study

**Financial Considerations:** None at this time.

**Legal Considerations:** The comments provided by DAB members, citizens, and various community groups could be used to direct future efforts of the task force.

**Recommendations/Actions:** Receive and file.

**Attachment:** Presentation.